Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/554,009	SUZUKI, HIDEKAZU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shin-Hon Chen	2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *Amendment filed on 12/1/06*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *36, and 38-45*.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

 * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

 Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 11/15/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *2/15/07* .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 36, and 38-45 are allowed. Claims 36, and 38-45 are re-numbered as claims 1-9.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Tyson Winarski on 2/15/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

3. 36. (Currently Amended) A data stream transmission and reception method for receiving data from a transmitting end, in accordance with a reception contract, by plural receivers that have individual ID numbers and belong to the same group, said transmitting end assigning the same group ID number to the plural receivers, and managing the reception contract on the basis of the individual ID numbers or the group ID number, said method comprising:

notifying the transmitting end of the individual ID number possessed by a first receiver among the plural receivers that belong to the same group;

notifying the transmitting end of ID information that can identify a service with which the first receiver tries to make a reception contract;

notifying the transmitting end of the individual ID numbers possessed by one or plural receivers that belong to the same group as the first receiver, and that the one or plural receivers belong to the same group as the first receiver;

assigning the same group ID number to the first receiver and the first or plural receivers by the transmitting end that has received the notification; ~~and~~

inputting the ID information of the service with which the first receiver makes a reception contract, to the first or plural receivers; and

wherein said first individual ID number notification further comprises notifying the transmitting end of a telephone line number that is connected to the first receiver; and

in said additional individual ID number notification, the one or plural receivers belong to the same group as the first receiver, and are connected by the same telephone line as the first receiver;

said notifying the transmitting end of a telephone line number comprising:

notifying the transmitting end of the individual ID number and the group ID number possessed by at least the self receiver, from each receiver, through the telephone number line connected to the corresponding receiver at predetermined time intervals; and

collating individual ID numbers, group ID numbers, and telephone line numbers which have already been held by the transmitting end, with the individual ID numbers and the group ID number that are notified from the telephone line number at the predetermined time intervals, with respect to the plural receivers that belong to the same group.

4. 37. (Cancelled).

5. In claims 39 and 42:

a) line 1, replace " Claim 37" with -- Claim 36 --.

6. 43. (Currently Amended). A data stream transmission and reception method for receiving data from a transmitting end, in accordance with a reception contract, by plural receivers that have individual ID numbers and belong to the same group, said transmitting end assigning the same group ID number to the plural receivers, and managing the reception contract on the basis of the individual ID numbers or the group ID number, said method comprising:

notifying the transmitting end of the individual ID number possessed by the first receiver, among the plural receivers that belong to the same group;

notifying the transmitting end of the individual ID numbers possessed by one or plural receivers that belong to the same group as the first receiver, and that the one or plural receivers belong to the same group as the first receiver;

assigning the same group ID number to the first receiver and the first or plural receivers by the transmitting end that has received the notification; ~~and~~

notifying the transmitting end of information that identifies the viewed event as well as the individual ID numbers possessed by the aforementioned receivers and group ID number when an event is viewed by the plural receivers that belong to the same group and have the same group ID number; and

wherein said first individual ID number notification further comprises notifying the transmitting end of a telephone line number that is connected to the first receiver; and

in said additional individual ID number notification, the one or plural receivers belong to the same group as the first receiver, and are connected by the same telephone line as the first receiver;

said notifying the transmitting end of a telephone line number comprising:

notifying the transmitting end of the individual ID number and the group ID number possessed by at least the self receiver, from each receiver, through the telephone number line connected to the corresponding receiver at predetermined time intervals; and

collating individual ID numbers, group ID numbers, and telephone line numbers which have already been held by the transmitting end, with the individual ID numbers and the group ID number that are notified from the telephone line number at the predetermined time intervals, with respect to the plural receivers that belong to the same group.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record discloses a pay broadcasting system where multiple receivers are organized into groups and a pay information broadcasting system for descrambling information from plural sources and rescrambling the information before sending to a terminal or terminals. However, the prior art of record individually or in combination fails to disclose notifying the transmitting end of ID information that can identify a service with which the first receiver tries to make a reception contract; notifying the transmitting end of the individual ID numbers possessed by one or plural receivers that belong to the same group as the first receiver, and that the one or plural receivers belong to the same group as the first receiver; and assigning the same group ID number to the

first receiver and the first or plural receivers by the transmitting end that has received the notification; and collating individual ID numbers, group ID numbers, and telephone line numbers which have already been held by the transmitting end, with the individual ID numbers and the group ID number that are notified from the telephone line number at the predetermined time intervals, with respect to the plural receivers that belong to the same group in light of other features disclosed in independent claims 36 and 43.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shin-Hon Chen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3789. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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